

COMMUNITY PLANNING OBJECTIVES

OBJECTIVE #1

To preserve and strengthen the Cambridge residential neighborhoods and their diverse population.

During Fiscal Year 2004, the City of Cambridge through the Community Planning Division of the Community Development Department will provide information to the public on planning and zoning. Will continue to work with neighborhood groups, residents, property owners, developers and other City departments and state agencies on urban design plans and proposed developments.

Expected Resources:

- ***Federal Funds:***
Community Development Block Grant
- ***Local Funds:***
Property Taxes

Strategies:

Combination of Community Development Block Grant and Property Taxes

These funds will be used to cover the costs associated with staff, overhead and any consultant needed to prepare the following studies.

Neighborhood Study Updates

Complete updates on implementation of neighborhood studies working with residents, business representatives and business representatives to update past recommendations addressing land use, zoning, urban design, open space, transportation, housing and economic development.

Concord/Alewife Planning Study

With the completion of the Citywide Rezoning and the follow-up rezoning of Eastern Cambridge, Cambridgeport (SD-8) and Alewife (SD-4/4A) over the past two years, the areas of Cambridge known as the Quadrangle (from Concord Avenue over to the railroad) and the Triangle (from the railroad over the Alewife Reservation) remain the last large commercial areas of Cambridge which are in need of more detailed planning study. These areas represent the last large industrial areas of Cambridge with significant development potential. Key issues to be addressed in this study include appropriate mix

of uses; access and traffic; possible city uses (e.g. DPW Yard); and the character of future development.

The proposed study is proceeding in a similar fashion to the recently completed ECaPS Study. An appointed committee is working with the Community Development Department and a consultant team to develop zoning and non-zoning recommendations with emphasis on promoting a vital development pattern which is consistent with the overall goals of the Citywide Rezoning. These goals include careful management of traffic growth and impacts, increased incentives for housing and affordable housing, and support for important avenues of economic growth for the city.

OBJECTIVE #2

Enhance the quality of the City's living environment.

During Fiscal Year 2003, the City of Cambridge through the Community Planning Division of the Community Development Department plans to provide design and construction oversight in the development and updating of the parks, playgrounds and recreational sites.

Expected Resources:

- ***Federal Funds:***
Community Development Block Grant
- ***Local Funds:***
Property Taxes

Strategies:

Combination of Community Development Block Grant and Property Taxes

These funds will be used to cover the costs associated with staff, overhead and any consultant needed to achieve the following.

Open Space/Playground Renovations

Complete construction on Franklin Park, Maple Avenue Tot Lot, and Lopez Street Park. Complete design and initiate construction for Lowell Street Park and Agassiz School Playground. . Upgrade water play features at Hoyt Field, Warren Pals and Pine Street Park. Complete design for renovations of Dana Park Gold Star Mother's Park and play structure replacement at Cambridge Common and Tobin School

Rooftop Mechanical Committee

Work with Planning Board and City Council to implement recommendations of the advisory committee of residents, business representatives and institutions and to guide planning study efforts to which developed recommendations addressing issues of appearance and acoustics.

OBJECTIVE #3

Preserve and strengthen the City's fiscal base

During Fiscal Year 2003, the City of Cambridge through the Community Planning Division of the Community Development Department plans to provide high quality technical assistance to increase the quality and availability of planning-related information to staff members, the City, residents, property owners, business owners and developers.

Expected Resources:

- ***Federal Funds:***
Community Development Block Grant
- ***Local Funds:***
Property Taxes

Strategy:

Property Taxes

These funds will be used to cover the costs associated with staff, overhead and any consultant needed to perform the following.

Planning Board

Continue to staff and assist the Planning Board in its review of Special Permits for significant projects throughout the city. Research and develop appropriate amendments to the zoning ordinance.